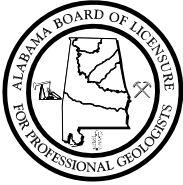


THE ALABAMA GEOLOGIST

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Continuing education and proper documentation

David T. King, Jr. — Board Member 2005-2007

The Board receives inquiries about continuing education activities and Professional Development Hours (PDHs) all the time and we do not mind answering them. However, before you make an inquiry, we would like to refer you to the recently updated Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists' web page (<http://www.algeobd.alabama.gov/>) where you can obtain detailed information on these matters.

There are carefully selected types of activities that qualify as continuing education activities for the purposes of licensure renewal. Further, there are some new limitations on the number of PDHs per activity and how the PDHs can be claimed. Again, please review our recently updated information on the Board web page because this information should answer most questions that are typically posed to the Board.

It is the responsibility of the renewing licensed professional geologist (LPG) to obtain continuing education credits (CEUs) in a timely manner and in the spirit of the Board's guidelines for continuing education. It is also the responsibility of the renewing LPG to fully document all continuing education activities undertaken during a biennial period. This documentation should include information on how the activity was relevant to geologic

continuing education and exactly how much time was spent by the LPG in gaining this continuing education. All documentation should be retained by the LPG for presentation to the Board, if requested, at renewal time. Lately, the Board has been randomly selecting renewal applications for continuing education audit. Therefore, this kind of documentation may be requested of you.

Please note that it is *strongly recommended* that the LPG engage in some additional continuing education activity beyond the minimum limit so that if some of his/her activities are not allowed for purposes of renewal, back-up PDHs will be available.

The Board is occasionally asked to 'pre-approve' continuing education activities. Members or the Board will respond to these inquiries as appropriate and as time permits. However, the LPG must be aware that PDHs are formally approved *at renewal time only* and 'pre-approval' does not guarantee acceptance of PDHs without proper documentation. Pre-approval (i.e., Board review and comment on an LPG's plans for a specific continuing education activity) is not the same as automatic acceptance of the activity at renewal time or during a random audit. Again, please refer to the new 2005 guidelines and reporting forms posted on the Board web page.

Be responsible!! — Report ethical violations to the Board!

If you observe ethical violations, report them to the Board. The complaint or charge must be submitted in writing and sworn to. The investigative committee of the Board will investigate the complaint and submit a report to the Board as to the validity or merit of the complaint or charge.

Geologists are in Demand!

Currently, there is great demand for geologists in the U.S. Recent inquiries to job placement agencies by the Board indicate that the demand for geologists is greater now than it has been in more than two decades. Geology graduate and undergraduate student populations at all the State's accredited universities has nearly doubled in just the past two or three years. As a result of this demand, the environmental sector of the geological profession in Alabama is in need of Licensed Professional Geologists.

While employment of geologists has recently increased in the Oil and Gas Industry, the environmental sector continues to be one of the largest employers of Alabama Licensed Professional Geologists. Through regu-

latory programs such as the Underground Storage Tank (UST) program and the voluntary cleanup program, responsible parties and property developers are charged with assessing and cleaning up well over 1,600 contaminated sites in Alabama. Various aspects of the assessment programs require the use of experienced licensed professional geologists or qualified experienced Registered Professional Engineers. In the UST program alone, licensed professional geologists are needed for geologic and hydrogeologic logging of wells, developing geologic/hydrogeologic cross sections, interpreting and defining confined and unconfined aquifers, interpreting hydrogeologic flow characteristics, as well as many other geologically related tasks.

SEALS

Do you have a seal? Each Licensed Professional Geologist who receives a license should obtain a seal authorized by the Board which bears the name of the licensee and their license number. A licensed professional geologist shall approve, sign, and affix his or her seal to all drawings, reports, or other geologic papers, or documents involving the public practice of geology which have been prepared by the licensed professional geologist or a subordinate under the direction of the licensed professional geologist for use by, or delivery to, any person or for public record within the State of Alabama.

Don't have a seal? A rubber stamp identical in size, design, and content with the approved seals may be used by the licensee at his/her option.

Do you submit documents to agencies such as ADECA, ALDOT or ADEM? Then you may be (and likely are) publicly practicing geology and documents that you submit should bear your signature and seal.

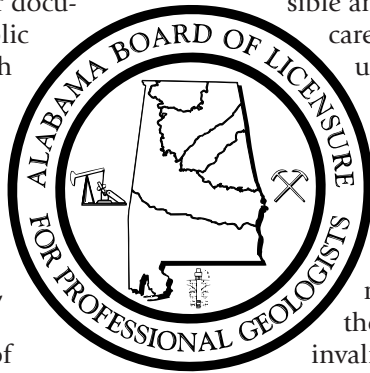
What if the agencies' rules don't specifically require a seal? The agency

regulations may not specifically require a seal, but the Professional Geologist regulations do require the sealing of certain documents. Chapter 334-x-11 includes the regulations regarding the use of a seal in the State of Alabama.

The professional geologist shall be personally and professionally responsible and accountable for the care, custody, control and use of his/her professional geologist seal, his/her professional signature and identification. Should your seal be lost or stolen, upon discovery of its loss/theft, report the loss/theft to the Board. The Board may invalidate the stolen registration number and seal and if necessary, issue another registration number.

Renewing your license? The continuing education reporting form requires that a stamp or seal of the professional geologist be applied to the report form.

Don't have a seal or stamp? Order forms for obtaining a seal or stamp are located on the Board's website. The current cost for ordering a seal or stamp is \$50.00.



Congratulations to our newest PGs!

Jennifer J. Krueger

Cincinnati, OH, PG License # 1158

Joe Dale Hardin

Orange Beach, AL, PG License # 1159

William H. McLemore,

Jasper, GA, PG License #1160

John C. Mason

Knoxville, TN, PG License #1161

Karen Thorbjornsen

Knoxville, TN, PG License #1162

Carrie L. Kruchell

Mobile, AL, PG License #1163

Randall N. Lantz

Dallas, TX, PG License #1164

David A. Steffy

Piedmont, AL, PG License # 1165

Nicholas S. Sirek

Knoxville, TN, PG License # 1166

Evan B. Perry

Cumming, GA, PG License # 1167

Mark E. Portman

Allison Park, PA, PG License #1168

Kathryn W. Webb

Greenville, SC, PG License # 1169

Scott E. Buwalda

Cumming, GA, PG License # 1170

Darrell B. Chandler, Jr.

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL,

PG License # 1171

Steven S. Jett

St. Charles, MO, PG License # 1172

Brian Keith Hutchison

Pensacola, FL, PG License # 1173

John Marshall Roberts

Kingston, GA, PG License # 1174

Charles B. Andrews

Garrett Park, MD, PG License # 1175

Tony L. Gordon

Atlanta, GA, PG License # 1176

Richard H. Kingsbury

Douglasville, GA, PG License #1177

Mark Zeko

Brea, CA, PG License # 1178

IN MEMORY OF...

Joey Bemis

Alabama License # 461

Dr. Nathan Green

Professor of Geology,
University of Alabama

Upcoming Meetings and Seminars

ADEM's Annual Groundwater Conference

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management's (ADEM's) Annual Groundwater Conference is tentatively scheduled for May 30, 2007. The conference will be held in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building in downtown Montgomery, Alabama. Continuing education credits will be awarded. For confirmation of the date of the conference and to obtain additional information concerning the agenda and registration for the conference, visit ADEM's website at www.adem.state.al.us.

Alabama Geological Society

In response to the success of a seminar on the world's best preserved Carboniferous track sites in a tidal mud flat, held jointly by the Alabama Geological Society (AGS) and the Alabama Paleontological Society (APS) in April 2006, the AGS/APS plans to sponsor the seminar again in the spring of 2007. The seminar will be held at the Union Chapel Mine in Walker County, Alabama. Watch for a notice of the schedule and registration on the AGS's website at <http://homepage.mac.com/jpashin/AGS.htm>.

PTTC Workshops

The Eastern Gulf Region of the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council (PTTC) has announced two upcoming workshops for early 2007. A workshop, titled "Use of Transgressive-Regressive (T-R) Sequences in Petroleum Exploration" will be held on February 20, 2007. A second workshop, titled "Basin Analysis and Petroleum System Characterization: Mississippian Interior and North Louisiana Salt Basins" will be held on March 28, 2007. Both workshops will be held from 9:00 AM-3:30 PM on the campus of the University of Alabama in the Beville Building (201 7th Avenue). For information on registration, visit PTTC's website at www.pttc.org.

Geological Society of America

The Geological Society of America (GSA) will host a series of technical and poster sessions at the 56th annual meeting of the Southeastern Section in Savannah, Georgia on March 29 and 30, 2007. The meeting will also include workshops and field trips. Those interested in attending may register on line at www.geosociety.org.



ASBOG Test to be administered

The next ASBOG test will be administered on Friday, September 28, 2007, in Montgomery Alabama at the Holiday Inn East. Those geologists wishing to take either the Fundamentals of Geology or the Practice of Geology should apply for the test by Friday, August 3, 2007, in order to qualify for the examination.

2007 Geology Board Calendar

Note: All Board meetings are held at the Board office, and begin at 10:00 a.m.

January 18, 2007	Board Meeting	(Thursday – 10:00 a.m.)
March 2, 2007	ASBOG Exam	(Friday – 8:00 a.m.) Deadline is January 3, 2007
April 19, 2007	Board Meeting	(Thursday – 10:00 a.m.)
July 19, 2007	Board Meeting	(Thursday – 10:00 a.m.)
September 28, 2007	ASBOG Exam	(Friday – 8:00 a.m.) Deadline is July 9, 2007
October 18, 2007	Board Meeting	(Thursday – 10:00 a.m.)



The Alabama Geologist is a publication of
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